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UTAH STATE NEWS

The Logan Commercial club failed to endorse the public utilities bill now before the legislature.

The supreme court last week adjourned until March 22, having completed its February session.

Frank Scalerio, a Greek, 40 years of age, dropped dead on the streets of Salt Lake one evening last week, death being due to apoplexy.

A meeting will be held at Logan March 26 of the leading business men of Cache county to decide on a county fair, to be held September 15.

The level of the Great Salt Lake is now 4.25 feet above the zero mark as compared with 3.7 feet above one year ago, a trifle over six inches higher.

A. M. Farnum, aged 45, employed as a switchman, was run over by an engine and horribly mangled in the yards of the Oregon Short Line in Salt Lake City.

The enlarged homestead bill is now a law and will soon be in force in Utah. Of the 2,000,000 acres obtained for Utah, 1,000,000 will be selected at once.

As the result of frequent disagreements between members of the council and the mayor of the town of Huntsville, Mayor Lofgreen has resigned.

Fire of mysterious origin completely destroyed the plant occupied by the Western Macaroni Manufacturing company in Salt Lake City, causing a loss of \$200,000.

February, the shortest month in the year, was the biggest month in the United States land office in the acreage of land selections filed. Over 73,000 acres were filed on.

Mr. R. E. Eckart, great-granddaughter of Bishop William White, one of the first Episcopal bishops in this country, died at her home in Salt Lake City, March 3, at the age of 69.

It is announced that Ogden is to become a part of the Orpheum theatre circuit, a new theatre to be built at once, which will furnish the Junction city people with first-class vaudeville.

It develops that a 17-year-old boy, Andrew Royal, arrested in Salt Lake City for disturbing a religious meeting, cannot be brought under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, as he has a wife and child.

Adjutant General E. A. Wedgewood of the National Guard of Utah has announced under the head of General Orders No. 8, a prize of \$100 to be awarded for excellence at the coming government inspection.

The Gunnison Telephone company of Sanpete county filed articles with the secretary of state. Capital is \$5,000, in shares of \$2.50 each, fully subscribed by citizens of Gunnison, Centerfield and Payette.

Charles and George Taylor, two negroes, charged with robbing William Wagner's residence at Tucker, have confessed and told the officers where they had hidden the money and jewelry taken from the residence.

Harvey W. Gross, a brakeman in the employ of the Oregon Short Line, was killed last week in the yards at Mountain Home, Idaho, while switching. He leaves a wife and child. The family formerly resided in Ogden.

A movement is on foot to organize a Weber county league of baseball players for the coming season. The villages of North Ogden, Hooper, Plain City, Eden, Huntville, Farr West and Warren are to be represented in the league.

On board the first passenger train to run over the Western Pacific, the western end of the Gould system, on March 3, were the governor and most of the Utah legislature and other guests of President E. T. Jeffrey of the railroad.

Forester Pinchot is arranging a western trip, on which he will address the New Mexico legislature, March 10, Colorado legislature, March 16; public meetings at Grand Junction on March 20th, Delta the 22d and will reach Ogden March 23.

While excavating for sewerage purposes on the site of the new forestry building in Ogden, workmen dug up several sections of an old stone sewer installed over forty years ago, when Ogden was a hamlet with a few hundred inhabitants.

The citizens of Mayfield have been agitating the waterworks system, and have selected men to make a canvass of the town and secure signers. If the necessary amount, \$6,000, can be secured, work will be started in the very near future.

The Utah Health League, an aggressive branch of the National Health League, has been organized in Salt Lake City, the object of the league being the promotion of the public health and the study of sanitary questions and needs of the state.

David Logan, who shot and killed Richard Hawkins, in Salt Lake City, September 10 last, was found not guilty of murder by a jury last week. The defense was that Hawkins had threatened to kill Logan, the two men, both negroes, having quarreled over a card game.

BLOODY CRUTCH MAY PROVE GUILTY

Cripple Stands in Shadow of the Gallows for Murder Committed for a Few Cents.

Web of Circumstantial Evidence Being Woven Around Alleged Murderer of Salt Lake Painter Who Was Beaten and Strangled to Death.

Salt Lake City.—A bloody crutch may prove the important clue which will bring to the gallows the murderer of John C. Burnett, the painter who was beaten and strangled to death in a rooming house in this city, the crime evidently having been committed with the purpose of robbery, the murderer, however, securing less than \$5 after committing one of the most revolting crimes in the history of the city.

In Hugh Meyers, the one-legged man, arrested a few hours after the discovery of the mutilated body of John C. Burnett, the police believe they have the real murderer of the unfortunate painter and paper hanger who was lured to his death for a few dollars.

Gradually a web of circumstantial evidence is being woven around Meyers, and as the meshes are being drawn tighter there seems little likelihood of the escape of Meyers from the direct accusation of being the actual murderer, or at least an accomplice.

The most important piece of evidence so far obtained, and which so strongly incriminates Meyers, is his crutch. It developed Saturday that the crutch exactly fits into the wounds upon the head and hands of the murdered man and fits so perfectly as to leave no room for doubt in the minds of the police that the crutch was the instrument used in the death-dealing blows.

In addition, several other important bits of evidence, all tending to fasten the crime on Meyers, were secured. In the running down of the evidence the detectives proved conclusively that the story told by Meyers in connection with the incidents of the night of the murder was false in many respects, that he had betrayed his own falsehoods in telling conflicting stories. Equally important was the result of an analysis made by State Chemist Herman Harms, which revealed fresh blood stains on Meyers' shoe, crutch, hat and handkerchief. The shirt worn by the murderer, and from which the bloodstained cuffs and sleeves had been torn off, was also found in a toilet room in the Mammoth saloon, and the officers are positive that the shirt belonged to Meyers.

FAIRBANKS IN PRIVATE LIFE.
Returns to Indianapolis After Twelve Years of Public Life.

Indianapolis.—After twelve years of public life, former Vice-President Fairbanks returned to his home here Sunday from Washington. Mr. and Mrs. Fairbanks received many friends at their home Sunday. Concerning the new administration, Mr. Fairbanks said: "The new administration starts with every assurance of success. The president was wise in calling congress in extra session at the earliest practicable date so that tariff revision might be speedily effected."

"It is quite natural that there should be more or less hesitancy in the business world until the uncertainty as to what will be done with the various schedules is definitely put to rest. When revision is accomplished, if it is done on proper lines, it will tend to give stability to industry and trade and will result in the improvement of business conditions. Such improvement will probably be gradual, yet it will be certain."

NEGRO BURNED AT STAKE.
Punishment Meted Out to Black Fiend by Texans.

Rockwell, Tex.—After having been identified by Mrs. Arthur McKinney as the negro who attacked her Friday morning, Anderson Ellis was taken from the Rockwell county jail here, tied to an iron stake driven into the earth, and was burned to death in the presence of about a thousand persons. Earlier in the evening, Will Clark, a negro, was shot and killed when his father, Andrew Clark, refused to allow a posse to search his premises, on the assumption that Ellis was concealed there.

The burning occurred in the public square. Early Friday morning Mrs. McKinney went into her back yard, and was seized by Ellis. She fought desperately and the negro, running away, called that he would murder her should she tell of the attack.

Alleged Smuggling Scheme to Be Investigated.

Chicago.—An investigation of what is believed to be a huge evasion of the custom laws in the shipment of oriental rugs, tapestries, etc., to the United States, has been taken up by District Attorney Sims on information received on Saturday concerning the seizure of a consignment owned by Vital Bengault, a New York importer. The goods were entered at the custom house at a valuation of \$2,500. Appeal has been taken from the official appraisement of \$7,000.

PRESIDENT TAFT'S FIRST DAY IN THE WHITE HOUSE

Sends List of Nominations to Senate, and Machinery of Nation Under New Administration Is Now in Working Order.

Washington.—President Taft's first day as the chief executive of the nation was a very busy one.

The president named his cabinet, and the senate confirmed his selection, so that the new officers are now in charge.

President Taft and the Republican members of the ways and means committee held an important conference during the day. The committee has framed a tariff bill, which it is understood contains a provision for an inheritance tax, one of the suggestions for raising revenue contained in the inaugural address of President Taft.

Aside from these important accomplishments, President Taft gave himself up heartily to the demands of his friends and thousands of inaugural visitors who wished to shake hands with him.

Philander C. Knox was the first caller on President Taft in the White House. A fifteen-minute interview, Mr. Knox said, had its importance, but was not for publication. He was rejoicing that since noon Thursday, when his resignation as a senator became effective, he was simply a private citizen.

His rejoicing, however, was brief, for before the day was much older, he had been nominated and confirmed as secretary of state.

Governor Hughes of New York, Governor Proctor of Vermont, and the senators and many of the representatives from those states, next had the ear of the president and gained his consent to attend the celebration July 7 and 8 next, of the discovery of Lake Champlain, at Plattsburg and Burlington.

The congratulations and good wishes of Cuba were extended in the form of a memorial presented by General De Metrio Castillo Duany, who came to the United States for that purpose.

The reviewing stand for the inaugural parade was again occupied by President Taft Friday morning, when he took his place there to do honor to the Seventh regiment, New York Infantry. The Blaine club of Connecticut followed.

Fred W. Carpenter took the oath as secretary to the president, Wendell M. Michler, who has been Mr. Taft's assistant secretary and stenographer, was made one of Mr. Carpenter's assistants. T. M. Hendricks of Mr. Taft's clerical force was given a clerkship, and William Pannell, who for years has been Mr. Taft's messenger in the war department, was assigned to duty at Mr. Carpenter's door.

Vice-President Also Begins Work.

Promptly at noon Vice-President Sherman called the senate to order and after Chaplain Hale had delivered an impressive invocation the roll was called and a committee appointed to call upon the president and notify him that the senate was organized and ready for business.

At 1:30 the president's assistant secretary arrived with a list of nominations, as follows:

Philander C. Knox of Pennsylvania, to be secretary of state.

Franklin MacVeagh of Illinois, to be secretary of the treasury.

Jacob M. Dickinson of Tennessee, to be secretary of war.

George W. Wickersham of New York, to be attorney general.

Frank H. Hitchcock of Massachusetts, to be postmaster general.

George Von L. Meyer of Massachusetts, to be secretary of the navy.

Richard A. Ballinger of Washington, to be secretary of the interior.

James Wilson of Iowa, to be secretary of agriculture.

Charles Nagel of Missouri, to be secretary of commerce and labor.

Huntington Wilson of Illinois, to be assistant secretary of state.

Beckman Winthrop of New York, to be assistant secretary of the navy.

William Loeb, Jr., of New York, to be collector of customs for the district of New York, New York.

Lewis Dalby of Virginia, to be an Indian inspector.

MOST BRUTAL MURDER.

Salt Lake Workman Strangled and Beaten to Death by Thugs.

Salt Lake City.—John C. Barnett, 30 years old, a painter, was brutally murdered and then robbed some time between 12:30 o'clock Thursday morning and noon Thursday in a lodging house on Commercial street, and shortly after the crime was discovered Hugh Meyers, 19 years old, a one-legged man, was arrested on suspicion, as on his clothing and crutch was fresh blood.

Barnett, while under the influence of liquor, was enticed to the lodging house, which is conceded by the police to be the lowest dive in the city, and at the hands of two or three men, the exact number not being known, was strangled and beaten to death in the most horrible manner imaginable. His face was beaten to a jelly and all over the body are large cuts and bruises. The weapon used by the slayer is not known.

Bitter Attack Made on Ohio Supreme Court.

Columbus, O.—The Ohio supreme court was bitterly attacked in the state senate on Friday, during discussion of a proposition contained in an appropriation bill to place the jurisdiction over elevator men in the state house in the hands of the supreme court. The Democrats urged that the elevator men remain under the jurisdiction of the courts, as was originally proposed. It was openly charged that collusion exists between the court and the attorney general.

WILLIAM H. TAFT NOW AT THE HELM

Inaugural Ceremonies Held in the Senate Chamber for First Time in Seventy-six Years.

New Chief Executive Elected to Senate Chamber by President Roosevelt, Oath of Office Being Administered by Chief Justice Fuller.

Washington.—A blizzard sweeping over Washington on Thursday, March 4, caused an abandonment of the set program for the inauguration of William Howard Taft as president of the United States, and for the first time in seventy-six years the oath of office was administered to the incoming president in the senate chamber. To effect the change in ceremonies from the great stand erected along the east front of the capitol to the senate chamber, it was necessary to rush a special resolution through the house and senate.

The storm threatened to cause a total abandonment of the brilliant pageant of the afternoon, but a passageway was cleared along the center of Pennsylvania avenue, and for nearly three hours President Taft and Vice-President Sherman reviewed a passing column, which was replete with martial splendor and picturesque with civic display.

Following the inaugural ceremonies in the senate, Theodore Roosevelt, again a private citizen, bade an affectionate adieu to his successor, while all in the historic chamber looked on in silence, and then he hurried away through a side door, to take the train for New York.

As he passed out of the chamber, Mr. Roosevelt was given an ovation quite the equal to that tendered the new president.

As President Roosevelt accompanied Mr. Taft down the aisle of the senate chamber to chairs placed in front of the clerk's desk, every one in the great assemblage rose and remained standing, until Mr. Taft and Mr. Roosevelt were seated. On the floor of the chamber were ranged the members of the diplomatic corps, justices of the supreme court, members of the house and senate, the admiral of the navy, the chief of staff of the army and scores of other officials and distinguished visitors.

The ceremonies of the inaugural formally began when Vice-President Fairbanks, in a farewell address, which called out for him a spontaneous tribute of applause, declared the Sixtieth congress at an end. Turning then to Mr. Sherman, who had been escorted to a place beside him, he administered to his successor the oath of office and turned over to him the gavel.

Mr. Sherman, in rapping the senate to order in special session of the Sixty-first congress, made a brief address. Then followed the swearing in of many new senators.

This completed, Vice-President Sherman said:

"The chief justice will now administer the oath of office to the president-elect."

The sudden announcement came as a surprise and a solemn hush fell upon the assemblage. Mr. Taft arose, took the arm of Senator Knox, chairman of the joint committee on arrangements, and walked around to a position in the rear of the presiding officer's desk. He was followed by Chief Justice Fuller, who was officiating for the fifth time at this historic ceremony.

Mr. Taft took up a position facing the members of his family grouped in the gallery.

The chief justice began the administration of the oath in a low tone. Mr. Taft repeated the words in a slow, distinct voice. When he at last had kissed the Bible there was an outburst of applause, a grasp of the hand by the chief justice, and President Taft began immediately the inaugural address. He read from typewritten manuscript.

Mr. Taft won applause at the very outset by announcing his adherence to the Roosevelt policies and of his intention to carry them out by means of further legislation, which would also have for its purpose the freeing of alarm of those pursuing "proper and progressive business methods."

When Mr. Taft had concluded, Mr. Roosevelt immediately made his way to the rostrum, President Taft advanced to greet him. The two shook hands warmly and with hands on each others' shoulders they conversed earnestly for a few moments.

During the leave-taking every one in the senate chamber looked on with keenest interest at the unusual picture. At last the friends parted and Mr. Roosevelt darted out a side door leading into the senate lobby. He was followed by resounding cheers.

President Taft was escorted out through the main door amid an ovation. The great crowds outside caught up the cheering of those who had forced their way within. Mr. Taft entered the presidential carriage with Mrs. Taft. The escort began to move, the ceremonies were at an end.

The troops and civic bodies composing the notable parade of the afternoon mobilized in snow and slush, which in places was deeper than their legging tops. Down Pennsylvania avenue, walled in with spectators, they found dry footing, but faced a lively gale.

The parade was replete with interest. The 3,000 bluejackets from the recently returned Atlantic fleet shared honors among the military with the Cuban army of pacification. The trim cadets from West Point attracted unusual interest and made a characteristically fine showing. The midshipmen from Annapolis, snow-bound within twenty miles of Washington, shared the fate of thousands of sightseers who were unable to reach the city on account of the storm.

President and Mrs. Taft were the centers of interest at the culminating feature of the day—the inaugural ball in the Pension building. The scene in the great building, which had been transformed into a canopied court of ivory and white, was another of the brilliant pictures quadriennially painted here by the gathering of a vast and brilliant assemblage from every section of the country.

While the ball was in progress indoors, a display of fireworks on the moment lot in the rear of the White House, marked the end of the outdoor celebration. For hours the thinly clouded heavens were alight with rockets.

Prior to his visit to the ball, President Taft had entertained at tea in the White House the members of the Yale club; had dined with Mrs. Taft at 7 o'clock, and had stopped in at the Metropolitan club to say a few words at the dinner of the class of '78 at Yale.

Mr. Taft's day was one of continuing cheer and plaudits from the moment he first appeared on the White House portico to go to his inauguration, until he returned late Thursday night, an unwilling leave taker from the inaugural ball.

Mr. and Mrs. Taft were the guests of the Roosevelt family at the White House Wednesday night, setting a new precedent in the courtesies of the executive mansion, as they did again Thursday when Mrs. Taft accompanied the newly-made president and Mr. Sherman, the new vice-president, from the capitol to the head of the imposing parade to the White House. The presidential carage, drawn by four bay horses, which had been closed against the storm at President Roosevelt and Mr. Taft made their way to the capitol, was thrown open as the return journey began, and President Taft, quickly recognized by the crowd, which stood enthusiastically unmindful of the snow and slush about them, was acclaimed all along the great distance of the avenue.

Present Roosevelt With Cane.

El Paso, Tex.—An immense stick, handsomely carved by hand and beautifully colored by Mexican decorators was cleared through the customs house here Thursday. The stick is a gift to President Roosevelt from the American colony of Chihuahua, Mexico, and carries with it their wish that President Roosevelt may be recalled to office so that he may use it. The stick was addressed to "Theodore Roosevelt, retiring president of the United States," and was forwarded to Washington.

NORTHWEST NOTES

The Socialists have again swept the Butte Miners' union, the largest local in the Western Federation of Miners, and President P. W. Flynn has been elected by an overwhelming vote.

A miner named Sage, dismissed from the Boston-Pioche mine at Pioche, Nevada, shot and seriously wounded the foreman who discharged him. (Cleve Carter, the victim, is 28 years old.)

Ben Hollin, a fifteen-year-old boy, confined in the detention quarters of the county jail at Canon City, Colo., escaped by cutting a hole in the wall while Under Sheriff John Chetelat slept in an adjoining room.

Four men were killed in the Diamond mine at Butte, through a premature blast. Two of them were married men and leave families. No explanation has as yet been made as to the cause of the explosion.

Engineers of the Great Northern Railway company have virtually completed a preliminary survey of a new railroad for the Hill interests in Franklin, Adams and Douglas counties in eastern Washington.

After a long debate, the Nevada senate tabled the bill making an appropriation for a state exhibit at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition. This action practically means that Nevada will have no exhibit at Seattle.

After writing a note in which he said he was "too proud to beg and too honest to steal" and that the person finding the note "need not look for any friends," A. B. Kahney hanged himself in his room in Denver.

Secretary John T. Burns of the Dry Farming congress announced last week that the permanent headquarters of the congress would be located in Denver. The records and offices of the congress will be moved from Cheyenne to Denver soon.

Reports received from Fort Washakie, Wyo., are to the effect that a producing well of black asphaltum oil has been opened on the Indian reservation. Although considerable prospecting has been done in this vicinity, this is the first oil found in commercial quantities. Great excitement prevails.

Awakened by the police, who demanded admission to her home to search for a fugitive, Mrs. Harry Bridge, of Sheridan, Wyo., undertook to awaken her husband and was horrified to discover that he was dead. Bridge succumbed to heart failure while asleep, and had been dead several hours.

Governor Hay of Washington has expressed verbal approval of the local option bill which was generally approved by the legislature, and will sign the measure. The bill is a compromise measure. Every incorporated city under the act is a separate unit and county districts in every county form a district unit.

Judge Farrington of the United States circuit court at Carson City, Nevada, handed down a decision last week in the case of the Southern Pacific Railroad company vs. the Nevada Railroad commission. The decision sustains the commissioners in every point and dissolves the old injunctions against them.

The Pacific coast extension of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad crosses Musselshell river, Montana, 115 times in 117 miles. It has broken every American record by building twenty miles of bridges on that portion of the system, which begins at the Missouri river, South Dakota, and ends at the city of Seattle.

The effort of two powder salesmen to demonstrate to the mine officials at Sunrise, Wyo., that their powder was safer than the variety used in the big mine there, almost resulted fatally to half a dozen men, including the salesmen and the officials. The salesmen placed a blast of two kegs of powder, which exploded sooner than was expected.

A few nights ago Otto Jones, a prominent Powder river sheepman, rode up to the ranch of Joseph Lacey at Kincaid, Wyo., on the edge of the Wind River Indian reservation, boldly kidnapped Lacey's 16-year-old stepdaughter, Miss Martha Day, and galloped with her to the railroad, where they took a train to Chadron, Neb., and were married.

Mrs. James R. Davis, the bride of one of the richest and best known mine operators in Nevada, died at Los Angeles, March 2. She was one of the most beautiful and popular society girls of Goldfield, the daughter of a prominent physician, Dr. E. S. Galloway. Mr. and Mrs. Davis had only recently returned from an extended wedding trip in Europe.

Construction work on the Dodson dam in Valley county, Montana, which is being constructed for the purpose of irrigating large tracts of land lying along the Milk river, has been stopped by an injunction secured by the Great Northern Railway company upon the ground that the back water is threatening to undermine the railroad tracks.

A. B. Reynolds, one of the earliest pioneers of Guernsey, Wyo., and believed to have been the oldest resident of Laramie county, is dead from erysipelas, at the age of 89 years. He came west in 1849, crossing the plains in an ox-cart, and searching for gold in California.

Charles Horen, a well known business man of Laurel, Mont., was shot down and probably fatally injured by a supposedly insane Italian. The men had met and exchanged the compliments of the day when, without warning, the Italian wheeled and fired upon Horen.

One of the last acts of President Roosevelt was the signing of the proclamation creating additions to thirteen national forests in Nevada, California, New Mexico and Arizona, aggregating 4,880,735 acres, bringing the total national forestry acreage up to 155,013,980 acres.